

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing apparatus for detecting a keyword from a text file corresponding to an event that has taken place and displaying associated information corresponding to said keyword, comprising:

extraction means for extracting attribute information from an existing text file;

selection means for selecting an important word from among words contained in said existing text file;

acquisition means for acquiring said associated information related to said important word selected by said selection means;

database construction means for constructing a database by use of at least one of said attribute information extracted by said extraction means and said associated information acquired by said acquisition means;

event occurrence detection means for detecting the occurrence of said event;

keyword detection means for detecting a keyword from said text file corresponding to said event detected by said event occurrence detection means;

search means for searching said database constructed by said database construction means for said

associated information corresponding to said keyword detected by said keyword detection means; and

display control means for controlling displaying of said associated information retrieved by said search means.

2. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said detection means detects sending, receiving, or editing of an electronic mail as said event.

3. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said acquisition means acquires a title and a URL of a Web page containing said important word.

4. The information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said acquisition means acquires, in a predetermined timed relation, said associated information related to said important word selected by said selection means.

5. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

if an update condition is satisfied, update means for updating said database constructed by said database construction means.

6. The information processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said update condition can be set by a

user.

7. An information processing method for an information processing apparatus for detecting a keyword from a text file corresponding to an event that has taken place and displaying associated information corresponding to said keyword, comprising the steps of:

extracting attribute information from an existing text file;

selecting an important word from among words contained in said existing text file;

acquiring said associated information related to said important word selected in the selecting step;

constructing a database by use of at least one of said attribute information extracted in the extraction step and said associated information acquired in the acquiring step;

detecting the occurrence of said event;

detecting a keyword from said text file corresponding to said event detected in the event occurrence detecting step;

searching said database constructed in the database constructing step for said associated information corresponding to said keyword detected in the keyword detecting step; and

controlling displaying of said associated information retrieved in the searching step.

8. A program storage medium storing a computer-readable program for detecting a keyword from a text file corresponding to an event that has taken place and displaying associated information related to said keyword, comprising the steps of:

extracting attribute information from an existing text file;

selecting an important word from among words contained in said existing text file;

acquiring said associated information related to said important word selected in the selecting step;

constructing a database by use of at least one of said attribute information extracted in the extraction step and said associated information acquired in the acquiring step;

detecting the occurrence of said event;

detecting a keyword from said text file corresponding to said event detected in the event occurrence detecting step;

searching said database constructed in the database constructing step for said associated information corresponding to said keyword detected in the keyword

detecting step; and

controlling displaying of said associated information retrieved in the searching step.

9. An information processing apparatus for displaying a character on a display device and for displaying associated information related to a text file processed by a predetermined application program, comprising:

processing detection means for detecting, as an event, predetermined processing of said predetermined application program;

keyword detection means for detecting a keyword from said text file processed by said predetermined application program corresponding to said event detected by said detection means;

search means for searching a database for said associated information corresponding to said keyword detected by said detection means;

input means for inputting a command;

command processing means for executing, in response to said command inputted by said input means, processing on said associated information retrieved by said search means; and

display control means for displaying, in response

to said event detected by said processing detection means, said character onto said display device and changing a manner of displaying said character in response to said command inputted by said input means.

10. The information processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said display control means also displays text information as a script of said character.

11. The information processing apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising output means for outputting a voice signal corresponding to said text information displayed by said display control means.

12. The information processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said command processing means displays, on said display device, said associated information retrieved by said search means in an object form with respect to at least one of movement, storage, and deletion, in response to a display command inputted by said input means.

13. The information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said command processing means stores said associated information in response to a storage command inputted by said input means and displays a list of the stored associated information onto said display device.

14. The information processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said associated information of a URL of a Web page and said command processing means starts a WWW browser so as to access said URL of said Web page as said associated information in response to an access command inputted by said input means.

15. An information processing method for an information processing apparatus for displaying a character on a display device and for displaying associated information related to a text file processed by a predetermined application program, comprising the steps of:

detecting, as an event, predetermined processing of said predetermined application program;

detecting a keyword from said text file processed by said predetermined application program corresponding to said event detected in the processing detecting step;

searching a database for said associated information corresponding to said keyword detected in the keyword detecting step;

inputting a command;

executing, in response to said command inputted in the inputting step, processing on said associated information retrieved in the searching step; and

displaying, in response to said event detected in the processing of said detecting step, said character onto said display device and changing a manner of displaying said character in response to said command inputted in the inputting step.

16. A program storage medium storing a computer-readable program for displaying a character on a display device and for displaying associated information related to a text file processed by a predetermined application program, comprising the steps of:

detecting, as an event, predetermined processing of said predetermined application program;

detecting a keyword from said text file processed by said predetermined application program corresponding to said event detected in the processing detecting step;

searching a database for said associated information corresponding to said keyword detected in the keyword detecting step;

executing, in response to a command inputted, processing on said associated information retrieved in the searching step; and

displaying, in response to said event detected in the processing of said detecting step, said character onto said display device and changing a manner of

displaying said character in response to said command
inputted.